

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraphs [0024] and [0029] with the following replacement paragraphs:

[0024] The test taking software **112** may constitute a JAVA application not constrained by the limitations of a browser, such as ~~it's~~ its supported version of the JAVA runtime environment. Furthermore, in using JNLP the test taking software **112** may easily be updated. Alternately, the test taking software **112** may be implemented by way of an applet or any other software application configured to perform the methods described herein.

[0029] The web server **122** is in communication with the testing stations **111a...n** to provide access to the service center **120**. The web server **122** is in further communication with a data storage device **123**. The data storage device **123** is configured to store all data received from the testing stations **111a... n** which information may comprise the user's responses to questions and any other interaction between the user and the testing station **111a... n**. In addition, the data storage device **123** stores data necessary for fault recovery purposes in the ~~even~~ event the testing station **111a...n** fails. Fault recovery information may include a substantial mirror copy of the current state of a test being administered to user sufficient to allow fault recovery without reconstructing the state from stored information. State information may include test answers and elapsed testing time for a test currently being administered to a user, for example, on a testing station. The data storage device **123** also caches test information (e.g., test questions, etc.) received from the backend **130** and is further configured to store test items which may be delivered to and displayed on the testing stations **111a...n** and information received from the testing stations **111a... n** (e.g., test results, user identifying information, etc.) to be transmitted to the back-end **130**.